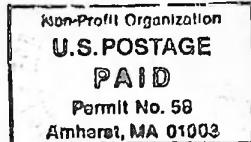


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# Valley Women's Voice

Nov., 1985

Vol. VII, Issue IX

## Grow, Learn, and Rejoice

'Celebrate our unity and diversity.'

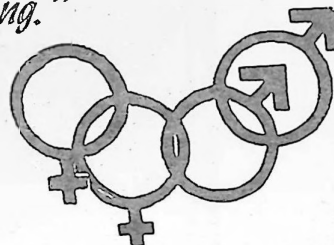
This was the theme of the conference of gays, lesbians and bisexuals held at Hampshire College the weekend of October 19 and 20. There are only two other such regional conferences in the country. Three hundred and forty participants came from all over New England--and Nebraska! I overheard a man from that state saying he was in town on business and dropped in. He took part in an event that this reporter feels has been the most uplifting and affirming of her gay life.

The conference was sponsored by Lifeline Institute Inc., the Valley Gay Alliance, the Hampshire College Women's Center, and Face to Face: A Gay and Lesbian Speaker's Bureau. Conference could sign up for a series of five workshops spread over the two days. Some were open to men only, some to just women, and about half to everyone. The thirty-two choices included AIDS, substance abuse, parental burnout, a presentation of the New Alexandria Lesbian Library, incest, Fat Liberation, coalition building, choosing a bisexual identity, and unlearning racism. Various films were run at the same times as the workshops. Available for all-day browsing were tables set up by organizations, artists and book shops. Participants also had the opportunity to talk to representatives of several television stations that are planning programs on gay and lesbian families. My only complaint might be that it was hard to choose from all the offerings!

At midpoint of the first day was a meeting open to all called the Diversity Panel Presentation. I found this format much more effective than a single keynote speaker would have been. The first of the five presenters was a local college student who outlined his resolution of the problems of being a gay male Hispanic at a fraternity-dominated school. Next was a lesbian in a wheelchair who was able to travel to the conference only by court injunction, so embroiled is she in litigation for the rights of the disabled. Then a bisexual woman rose to tell of two-closets-instead-of-one. She was followed by a lesbian mother who told of being seriously questioned if she intended to raise her infant SON. The last presenter was Tim Blake of the Valley Gay Alliance. He pointed to an 'eloquent' empty chair. The chair was for a speaker with AIDS that was too ill to attend. Blake spoke of his isolation as a black gay male, an isolation reflected in the fact that as of that exact moment that he spoke, no one had signed up for the Gay Men of Color workshop.

Saturday night was the high-point for social life. There was a social-hour made special by the splendid singing of Leslie Hoffman; we are very lucky this talented young woman is moving to this area. After the social-hour we moved to the Awards Banquet and Harvest Ball. Public service awards went to Congressman Gerry Studds, and to GALA of Northampton. Personal service awards went to Robin Oches of the Boston Bisexual

*"If you are not personally free to be yourself in that most important of all human activities --the expression of love -- then life itself loses its meaning."*



Harvey Milk

Women's Network, and to Kevin McConnell. This last award and tender acceptance speech by Laurel Brown provoked the longest applause. Outstanding Distinguished Person Awards went to John Calvi, masseur to AIDS patients, and to Holly Prater and Marge Morgan of Springfield for their work with parents of gays. And the "Turkey of the Year" award was won 'unanimously' by (SURPRISE!) Governor Dukakis.

There was some criticism later because the Harvest Ball was open to the public, and some people expressed their feelings that non-confererees 'took over' the dance. I cannot agree: I had a total blast and the joint was still jumpin' at twelve-thirty when I crept regretfully away.

Sunday I attended the workshop that was most personally moving

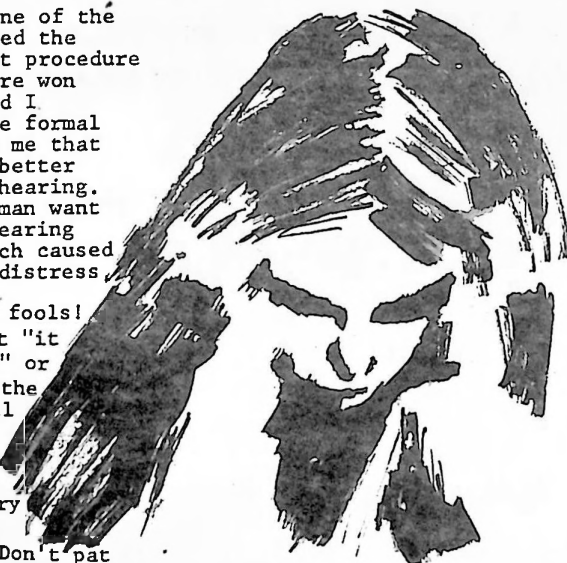
for me. I had felt guilty when I signed up for it; this feeling was echoed by the comment of one of our panel that the size of our group indicated that religion WAS a concern of attendees of the conference, although a 'still closeted' one. Five presenters revealed their upbringings in traditional Christian or Jewish settings, and how they resolved the search for unharassed outlets for spirituality after coming out. To be interested in traditional (therefore patriarchal) religion seems a major political incorrectness for lesbians. For the two years I have been out, I have quashed this dimension of myself ....but the whole point of this gathering was that differing opinion, even wildly diverging opinion, need not shatter our unity.

cont'd on p. 5

## Sexual Harassment: A Personal Account

Pia Giannasi

Last semester I was one of the two students who utilized the formal sexual harassment procedure at UMass. Both cases were won by the students. Why did I choose to go through the formal process? It is clear to me that as students we have no better recourse than a formal hearing. Why would any woman or man want to sit in an informal hearing and have the event, which caused her/him such emotional distress, "reinterpreted" by the perpetrator? We are not fools! I refuse to be told that "it really wasn't like that" or "you've misinterpreted the whole thing." Don't tell me that I don't know what I felt. Don't give me an explanation of your motives and then try to tell me they weren't as "bad" as I thought. Don't pat me on the head, call me "little girl" and tell me to "hush now." Don't reduce a criminal action



cont'd on p. 11

## What to Do and Where to Go

--Reprinted, with permission, from "Sexual Harassment: The Problem, The Policy and the Procedure", an informational flyer available from the Everywoman's Center at UMass.

"Sexual harassment constitutes unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated," says Joseph Duffey, chancellor of UMass at Amherst. The university defines sexual harassment as

Unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of sexual nature, when: 1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic work, 2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting such individual, or 3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working or academic environment.

A person in a position of power is in a position to coerce, whether knowingly or not, those who rely upon them for supervision, guidance, and academic and career support.

Sexual attention is coercive and destructive to one who does not feel free to say no, and is always suspect when coming from a person in a position of more power, authority, or control. What a man intends as an expression of friendliness or sexual interest, a woman may experience as sexual exploitation of power or position. Often genuine resistance is misinterpreted because of the myth that women mean yes when they say no.

Sexual harassment is primarily directed at women by men in positions of power, although men and women can be harassed by members of the same sex and occasionally women harass men. It embraces a wide spectrum of conduct which may include:

--Public display of photographs, pin-ups, calendars, etc. which portray sexually explicit, offensive, or demeaning images.

--Looks, leering, gestures, jokes, innuendoes, sexual slurs, comments, or epithets of a sexual nature.

cont'd on p. 11

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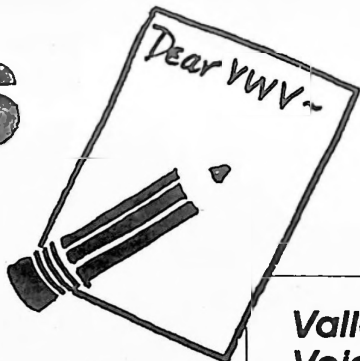
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All letters to the editor present the views of the author only. No statement in any letter to the editor represents any official position of the Valley Women's Voice, the Student Government Association, the administration or trustees of UMass, or the State Board of Regents.

# LETTERS



## Valley Women's Voice

c/o EWC,  
Wilder Hall,  
UMass  
Amherst, MA  
01003  
545-2436

Dear Women:

I used to live in the valley and work for the Voice. I miss reading it! I'm enclosing a check for a year's subscription. Please start me with the October issue.

I'm sure you're struggling along as (unfortunately) a lot of real good women's culture does. But don't give up! The paper is really important- it fills a big need- and I for one am so glad it keeps coming out!

Thanks for your work- your labor of love-

Kathryn Daniels  
Brooklyn, NY

Tell Us About It! Tell Us About It!

Dear VWV:

I love your paper, and appreciate your commitment and hard work. My dear friend has moved to Berkeley, CA, this fall to study at the Seminary. One of her classes is the study of Jesus' life. She is having a hard time with it. This is one of her assignments she did for that class, and shared with me. I thought it would be wonderful to print in your paper since it speaks to all women.

Irene Abramms

see page 10

Deadline for Articles,  
Poetry, Photos, etc.:  
Friday, November 15

Open Meeting for all  
Women Interested in Becoming a VWV  
staff/volunteer/reporter/  
photographer:

at the Everywoman's Center  
Wed. Nov. 13, 6:30 pm  
Call us for more info.

Please come! We're not desperate, but we do need  
your help to keep on being as good as we are!

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# Local News

## Northampton Attracts Leaping Literature

In Northampton, Massachusetts, on the Connecticut River, a unique lesbian collection is settled. Called the New Alexandria Lesbian Library, it is more than just the title 'library' might suggest. It is a cosy, comfortable place full of lesbian memorabilia and herstory, a kind of marvelous archives, without the dust and forbidding archivists. I remember spending the whole of one sunny Sunday afternoon there reading a lesbian pulp paperback novel from the 1950's. Hardly noticing as the hours went by, I stopped only to stretch for a minute and admire the collection of buttons and the many titles of books of all different genres. What a booklover's paradise!

The NALL has been in existence since 1974. It houses close to 1500 books on many subjects, over 300 periodical titles (many complete sets), extensive subject and regional files, reference guides, biblio-

ographies, catalogs, and a varied landscape of published and unpublished papers, correspondence, organizations' logs, records and tapes, video-tapes, a slide show, buttons, art, posters, fliers, photos and more.

To browse, read or research in NALL, to add your own lesbian image to the collection in writing, art, or music, or join library workers at ongoing work evenings, phone Bet at 584-7616 evenings or weekends. Write or send lesbian publications, poems, papers, oral herstories, tapes, books, or research questions to the collection at: New Alexandria Lesbian Library, P.O. Box 402, Florence, MA 01060.

The library is currently seeking directors and workers. They write, "We are in the process of incorporating and need your womonspirit/energy as a codirector and/or worker. Imagine yourself in a creative position of power! Think about what

you would like the NALL to be and we can make it happen together."

The NALL will hold an Open House on Saturday, November 16th. These planned get-togethers are often a great way to explore the NALL for the first time. All lesbians in the area are invited; music and refreshments will be provided. A slide show depicting the herstory of NALL will be available for the viewing, and if you like you'll be given a tour of the premises. Call Bet at the above number for directions.

Both Saturday, November 23rd and Saturday, December 7th, will be workers days at the NALL, from 3 to 6 pm. Women are wanted to sort herstory materials, catalog, file, etc. Experience is not necessary. Here's a great way to get personally involved in your local woman's resources. Refreshments are provided!

## Haven

HAVEN (Harassment and Violence Emergency Network) organizes a network of community support to anyone who is harassed, threatened, abused, and/or oppressed as lesbians, gay men, or bisexual people.

HAVEN now has an immediate hotline response system via a toll-free 800 number. Currently, this system is being used only on a documentary basis. When legal matters are resolved, the hotline will then connect with a network of community volunteers who offer one-to-one support, information and resources, referrals, safe houses, and documentation of events.

On a larger scale, HAVEN organizes group responses to specific situations in the form of anti-harassment education, public demonstrations, and vigils.

HAVEN is not a police force, suicide hotline, or vigilante group. HAVEN is not a bank of doctors, therapists, lawyers, or bodyguards. HAVEN is community support for community problems.

HAVEN is using this toll-free number to document all reported incidents. Over the next month (mid-October to mid-November) HAVEN will begin to gain a sense of what you, our community, need from the support network. Presently, HAVEN is investigating the question of liability and other legal ramifications of the network. We will put the network into effect when we are clear on these answers.

So help us now--inform us of your experiences; pass the 800 number around, encourage anyone you know who was hassled, oppressed or threatened to call HAVEN.

If you have any suggestions for HAVEN or would like more information, you can reach us at:

HAVEN  
c/o Lesbian and Gay Empowerment  
Coalition  
P.O. Box 562  
Northampton, MA 01601  
HAVEN meets every Monday at  
7:30 p.m.  
GALA office  
Thornes Marketplace-3rd floor  
Northampton

Come join us!

## Self-Determination

The Lesbian/Gay Empowerment Coalition was created as a result of the new foster care policy in Massachusetts as well as the continued harassment of the lesbian/gay community in Northampton and surrounding areas.

Since June, we have:

- worked with the Boston Lesbian/Gay Defense Committee and gathered hundreds of letters to Dukakis;
- as part of "Dukewatch" we have picketed the governor in Springfield and Northampton;
- brought supportive resolutions to the Northampton City Council
- placed a full page signature ad in the Daily Hampshire Gazette protesting the new foster policy, signed by 500 people;
- helped create HAVEN, a network of lesbians organized to provide fast, supportive aid to any member of the community harassed;
- done legal support work for people involved in cases of harassment;
- picketed Dukakis' house in Brookline with people from all over the state.

We invite members of the lesbian/gay community to work with us and attend upcoming meetings. Dates for the meetings are: Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 11, all at 7pm. All meetings are at the GALA office, third floor of Thornes Market, 150 Main St., Northampton. (413)586-9340

The Lesbian/Gay Empowerment Coalition urges interested members of the community to come to our meetings and participate in the struggle to overturn the foster care policy, end harassment, and provide the possibility of living lives free from oppression and fear.

Harassment  
And  
Violence  
Emergency  
Network:  
Toll Free  
Hotline  
1-800-  
512-3589

## Newsbriefs

### Lover Denied Equal Access

MINNESOTA -- Karen Thompson has lost the right to visit her brain-injured lover.

Sherbourne County District Judge Bruce Douglas ruled July 23 that full guardianship of Sharon Kowalski be granted to her father Donald Kowalski. This decision in effect revokes Karen Thompson's equal access, established in an earlier court decision in April 1984. The recent ruling gave Donald Kowalski the power to determine who may or may not visit Sharon.

On July 26 Karen Thompson was informed that Mr. Kowalski had limited visitation solely to those people listed by the family. He was excluding Karen and other friends of Sharon's on Karen's list of permitted visitors. Furthermore, the family immediately moved Sharon to a nursing home in Hibbing, MN, which Thompson claims is not equipped to meet her needs.

Thompson and others are concerned that these developments will hinder Kowalski's recovery process. They consider that she will be adversely affected by the move,

and by the sudden loss of contact with her friends.

The Minnesota Council for Civil Liberties has taken on the case to protect Kowalski's freedom of association. They will attempt to get Donald Kowalski removed from guardianship and replaced by a neutral third party. Thompson has repeatedly indicated that this course of action could have been avoided if the Kowalskis would cooperate with her to work together for Sharon's benefit. They have consistently refused.

There is a great need for help to cover the legal costs of this case. A tax-deductible donation may be sent to Minnesota Gay and Lesbian Legal Assistance or Minnesota Society for Personal Liberties, c/o Suzanne Born, 3436 Holmes Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

by June Thomas --oob  
info from GayLife and  
press release from Committee  
on the Right to Recovery and  
Relationships.

### Talking Feminism

feminist literature on tape, in braille

MINNEAPOLIS, MN -- The Women's Braille Press (WBP), created in 1980 by six blind women, offers feminist books and periodicals in tape and in Braille.

Over 150 titles are available on tape in the four-track, 15/16 ips format, and can be played on tape players distributed by the National Library Service. Several feminist periodicals and resource guides on women's health issues are also available on tape.

In Braille, a number of books, including several volumes of poetry, as well as materials on women's health issues, are available.

WBP produces a complete catalogue in Braille, on tape, and in print of all materials currently offered. The press also produces a quarterly newsletter in Braille, on tape, and in print containing articles by women with disabilities on a wide variety of topics such as employment and attitudes toward women with disabilities.

In addition to providing literature for women with disabilities, WBP is committed to educating non-disabled women on the abilities and needs of disabled women. The press participates in workshops and discussions on attitudes toward disabilities and will consult with organizations about providing written materials in Braille and on tape.

WBP is always in need of volunteers, both for reading on tape and for Braille transcribing. The work is supported primarily through donations from individuals. Subscription to the newsletter costs from ten to twenty dollars per year on a sliding scale.

For more information, write to WBP, Inc., P.O. Box 8475, Minneapolis, MN 55408 or call (612) 872-4352 days or (612) 822-0549 evenings and weekends.

--GCN -- Stephanie Poggi

### No Secret

A new book is supporting what members of a women's peace camp have said for almost two years: namely, that an army depot in upstate New York does indeed hold nuclear warheads.

The book, *Nuclear Battlefields: Global Links in the Arms Race*, estimates that the Seneca Army Depot houses 1,255 weapons. That makes it the single largest nuclear arms storage site in the US, say the authors, and the second largest site in the entire world.

*Nuclear Battlefields*, written by two members of the well-known Institute for Policy Studies, is based on declassified documents, Congressional hearing transcripts and international military maps. The book, say members of the Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice, "confirms what we have known all along."

--Her Say/New Directions for Women

# From Behind Bars

Last year, the Valley Women's Voice ran an article about Raven Darkwing Foster, who was accused and convicted of a murder that her ex-husband, Tommy Foster, had confessed to committing. She is still in jail on a death sentence, and has decided that she no longer wishes to continue to try to appeal her case. "I am tired of fighting the system," she wrote a friend. "I know the only hope lies in a life sentence and I do not want that. The court convicted an innocent person and I do not have faith in the same court to set me free."

"You will not fully understand this decision, but if you had to spend day after day locked in a small room you would understand. I've been in this room for four years. Too much pain and heartache."

According to Karen Rodgers, who has been following Raven's case and has urged the Maryland court of appeals to consider a retrial, Tommy Foster confessed to the stabbing death on Jan. 28, 1981 of Josephine Dietrich who was manager of the Maryland Hotel. In his confession, he detailed how he became angry at Ms. Dietrich and that he pulled a screwdriver from his pocket and stabbed her. He went on to give details of how robbery was used to cover up the murder, in which his daughter, Elizabeth Phillips, also participated. He stated that Raven Foster was never at the scene of the murder and knew nothing about it. However, Tommy Foster later retracted his confession and implicated Raven. He was given a 12 year sentence for robbery.

Katey LaFrance and Carol LaPointe have been writing Raven since the Valley Women's Voice article was printed. They talked to me of their experience corresponding with Raven, and shared some of her letters. Each commented on how deeply they cared about Raven, and how concerned they were for her.

**"People either don't want to believe we have such a corrupt justice system, or they think 'it could never happen to them,' or they simply do not want to become involved." -- Raven Darkwing Foster**

Not many other women wrote Raven. In one of her first letters to Katey, Raven explained wryly, "Lesbians can be as naïve as anyone else." She also later wrote, "People either don't want to believe we have such a corrupt justice system, or they think 'it could never happen to them,' or they simply do not want to become involved." Carol agreed with that assessment. "People just don't believe it can happen to them. But it can." She added, "When I was young, I was put away for a couple of years, so I know what it's like to be locked up, but not what Raven's going through."

"I've been going to battle regularly here," Raven writes of her life in the prison system. "These asinine people will not let me alone. They can't stand the idea of me being my own person." One of the worst parts of prison life for Raven is that she only gets one hour a day outside. "Five hours a week does not fulfill my need to be out, but I guess it's better than nothing. Prior to coming here I stayed out all day and most of the night. I feel the impact of confinement most during the summer. I've learned to hate buildings. I understand why my people love teepees, they are not a confinement of brick, but a simple shelter. I will never get used to staying inside."

Reading through Raven's many letters to her friends, what stands out most is how a strong woman Raven is. Although life in prison is painful for her, she has no patience with those whose reaction is to give up. "I spent this day working on legal paperwork for some of the womyn here. I wish more of the womyn would get into law, and learn how to help themselves, most of them do nothing but read trash and gossip, I don't understand people like that. They are caught up in a system which tries to break them, yet they don't fight back." It is a system in which, according to Raven, "Many women are abused... especially those who have mental handicaps. I wish I knew what to do to get help in here but I really don't."

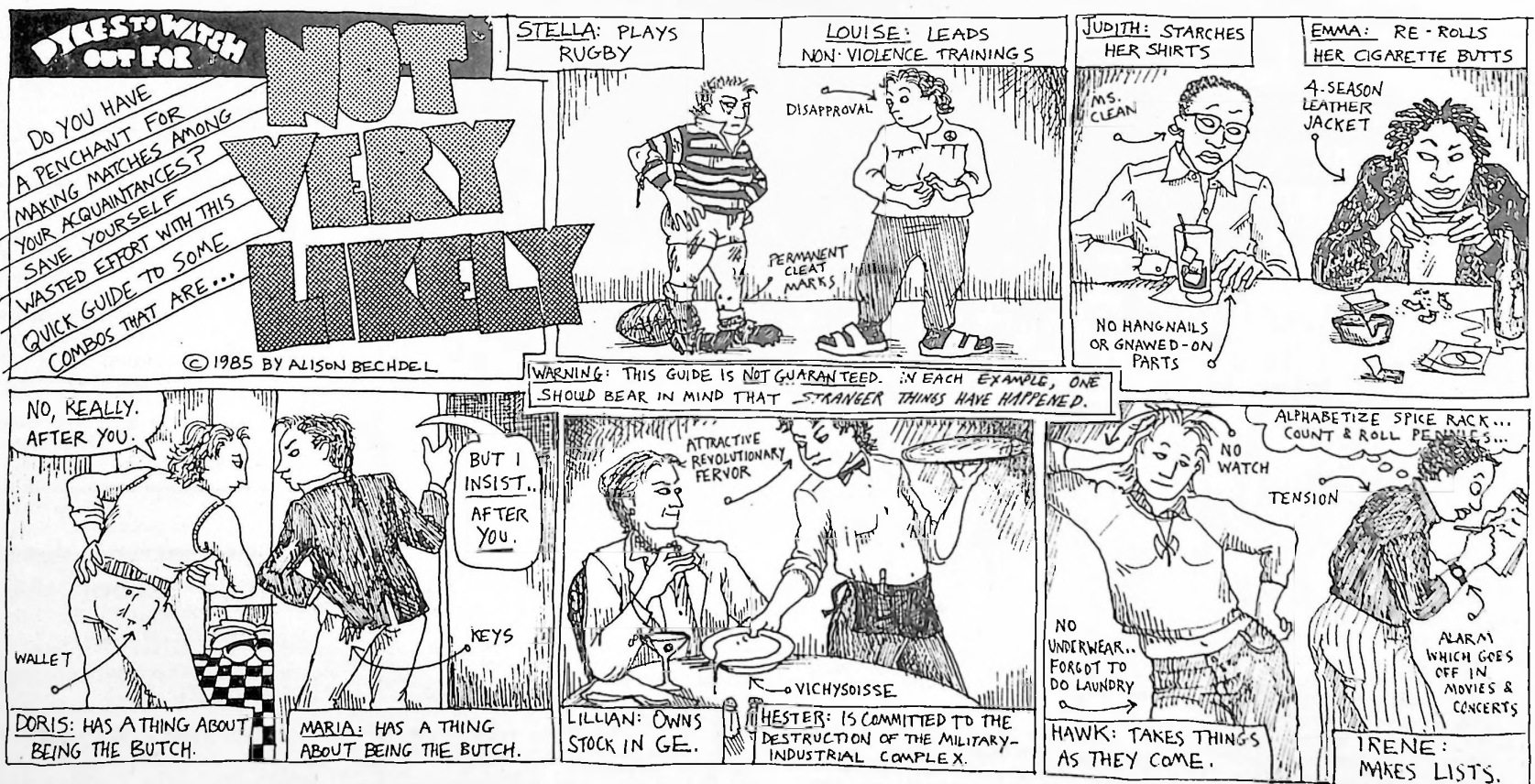
One month she writes, "I heard something rather strange the other day. The newsreporter said that Maryland correctional officers are classed as 'social workers.' Did you hear me laughing? Ha ha. Most of the officers who work here couldn't tie their shoes by themselves. They couldn't even pass an exam on an elementary level. The tax payers of this state sure are spending their money for nothing. The inmates have no one to talk to, no one to guide

them, they leave here worse than they came in. A formal education in crime is all they'll learn."

Of her lesbianism Raven is proud; it fits in with her sense of spirituality. "I'm very religious, but not to the Christian Path. I've studied Indian, Buddah, the Eastern philosophies and many more. I do not see loving womyn as wrong," but "For the most part, Indians as a group believe in the man & woman and child life style. I almost got kicked out of my tribe, many turned away from me, but I do what I must."

Her tribe has not deserted her, however. Later she writes, "My medicine man and some tribe members are going to come in and have a sacred pipe ceremony with me in a couple of weeks. The keepers here freak out, when they see us dancing and singing and they don't know what we're saying. The ceremony is quite beautiful. I believe that my destiny has much knowledge for me. My journey has many more mountains for me to climb. I have not come to the end, but rather the beginning. Life does not end with ceasement of the body, but goes on to cover grounds in other areas perhaps unknown to man on this level. I've explored much on this level, but I've only begun to search and find."

cont'd on p. 11





## Rejoice, cont'd

An Open Forum was the very last event. The jubilation of most of the participants was tempered by a student's comment that he had expected to see more UMASS students in attendance, and his statement that money was an issue. Several in the audience exclaimed that the price was why they were able to attend especially since twenty per cent was deducted by early registration. As an employee of a place that often hosts conferences, I found the early-registration fee of forty dollars an incredible bargain. It included workshops, two vegetarian lunches, the banquet (choice of veggie or non-veggie), the ball, and a wine-and-cheese social hour, to boot! University housing was available at an additional fifteen dollars per night, or you could opt for a private home arranged through the housing office, as I did. The aforementioned student then cited the carelessness regarding deadlines for which his kind are famous, but was shouted down.

Another sensitive issue that arose in the closing forum was the proposed admission of heterosexuals to next year's conference. (It is assumed that there will be one, given the success of this year's). Our initial reaction to the suggestion was scorn. Two euphoric days of

lives uncluttered by 'normal' folk had made us mean. Eventually reason returned and the prevailing opinion seemed to be that perhaps straights could be admitted next year for one of the two days.

Price and heterosexuals were not the last emotional issues to be dealt with at the Forum. A gay man rose to state that he had been with more lesbians in the past two days than in the rest of his life--and he liked it! My own unspoken thought was that I had very much enjoyed the camaraderie and presence of the men. Another woman commented upon the 'welcome' accorded bisexuals at the conference; from her phrasing I gathered that welcome has been extended very little elsewhere.

In one of the bathroom stalls of the college I sat and contemplated the following graffiti: 'The war on racism has not yet been won.' 'No war is ever won.' 'But a lot of territory changes hands.' The underlining is not my own, but the scribbles evoke a thought about this magical weekend: a lot of mental territory was expanded. So much so I believe we need a place to underline our differences AND our similarities that I volunteered for next year's planning committee. See you there.

## Issues of Therapy for Lesbians

Barbara Gingold, MSW, LICSW

At present, it seems that an on-going issue among Lesbians is the need for therapy at different stages of our growth process.

The reasons why people go to a therapist include: personal growth, a desire to resolve a problem such as feeling depressed, confused, nervous, unsure of self, or coping with relationship difficulties or perhaps a problem involving "stage of life" issues. Many people wait until problems in their life become critical before seeking professional help. At that point, they are looking for immediate answers and may be too upset to think clearly. But it is important to take one's time in seeing a therapist, checking with referral services and asking friends and/or professionals for recommendations.

It is also important to check on fees and type of services offered, the therapist's approach and philosophy of helping people, as well as professional credentials, degrees from accredited college or university and accreditation from national and/or state professional organizations.

Therapists have had special training in helping people to discover their motivation for

repeating self-defeating patterns of behavior, becoming aware of and dealing with complex emotions, developing self-esteem and developing their goals and values in a framework of understanding and an atmosphere that allows for growth.

Just as there are different reasons for seeking therapy, there are differences among professional therapists, and the ways in which they have been trained. A psychiatrist has a medical degree with an additional three year residency in psychiatry. A clinical psychologist has a PhD in psychology with an additional period of training in clinical psychology and psychological testing. A psychiatric social worker has a masters degree in social work which includes a two year period of clinical training.

Every therapist is bound by professional ethics to honor confidences unless written permission is given for information to be shared, under special circumstances.

There are additional considerations for lesbians in choosing a therapist, due to our diversity and the special stresses relevant to a lesbian lifestyle. Although a heterosexual or gay male therapist may be supportive,

cont'd on p. 14

*Debra Rosel*  
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# Poetry

Hilary Slain

## In Pursuit of Ideal Ending

Hail me a taxi, darling  
this is the end.  
I've said my piece,  
you don't want it again  
do you? Why must we torture ourselves?  
Let's have an end like fireworks.  
Let's have it big and banging  
romantic like the sea.  
I've seen the shore perfect -  
colorful sunset, big crashing waves.  
And then I've seen it  
and been disappointed.  
I expected the same  
as before  
and all the shore did was stretch  
for miles, lots of flat  
sand, just the same dull tan  
with pieces of shell  
that cut my feet, but didn't cut  
enough to make it  
exciting. Is that how this must end  
like a flat shore?

If we were only in the city  
on a street, with lights of colored sorts  
and stores that were open  
so we had to keep  
our voices down (no one could know  
we were doing this final thing,  
this breaking up, this endless breaking up)  
it would all be exciting.  
I could hear the saxophone  
in the background moaning  
over beeping horns and drunks.  
You'd paint a picture of this, a nude-  
l'd model and it would be the final  
chapter and when it was done  
and I'd written a poem  
we'd walk away satisfied-  
feeling more like angry lovers  
and passionate artists with all  
we've ever wanted.



## Reclaiming the Crone: Images of Power

In *The Crone*, Barbara Walker, author of the tremendously popular *Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets*, recovers the past roles of female elders and offers this history as the basis of increased spiritual and political power and a revitalized self-image for mature women today.

In ancient matriarchal societies, the older woman was revered as a powerful elder, a woman of great wisdom and judgment who functioned as a healer, teacher and priestess. Symbolized as the Crone, she was the most powerful entity in the original Trinity--the Goddess as Virgin, Mother, and Crone. But this once-powerful figure was displaced and transformed into the debased image of hag, witch, and evil-doer. Patriarchal religion and society have been ruthless in their opposition to Goddess, worship, and the attendant denigration of the Crone has resulted in the historical marginalization of older women in human affairs.

In this major work, Walker draws upon images of elder women from mythology, Oriental and pre-Christian cultures, and psychological archetypes in her analysis of the powers and privileges afforded to female elders of the past. She shows that the Crone was considered to have prophetic wisdom, theological knowledge, and legal judgment; she was a decision maker as well as a moral and intellectual leader of her family or tribe. Indeed, *The Crone* stresses, the tribal matriarch was once considered to be a veritable incarnation of the Goddess--embodying divine wisdom that was thought to grow stronger as she aged.

This groundbreaking study takes an in-depth look at the complex nature of this figure as it probes the recurrent death motif associated with the Crone. Tracing out "the negative aspect of the all-powerful mother, who embodies the fearful potential for rejection, abandonment, death," *The Crone* demonstrates how the stereotypical "old witch" replaced the wise Crone largely because of men's hidden death fears.

Walker relates this wealth of historical material to the contemporary problems of sexism and ageism, bringing fresh insights to the troubles concerning self-image that today's aging woman faces. Relating this concept to the most vital issue of our day, the author argues cogently that male "logic"--which tried to destroy the Crone--is pushing towards the annihilation of the planet through nuclear technology and brinkmanship. In reclaiming the imagery of the Crone, Walker asserts, we will not only be empowering older women but we will also be asserting a new set of positive values all women and men can subscribe to--one in which nuclear war is no longer a possibility.

As older women gain new power and respect with the rise of feminism, Barbara Walker resurrects the crucial figure of the Crone as an energizing symbol. *The Crone* is a book that will help older women "assert their right to judge, to be bolder in questioning male authority, and to demand the respect due them" as it points the way for all of us to amore humane future through understanding a vital part of our collective past and present.

## New Books at the Everywoman's Center Library

*The Single Mother's Survival Manual*  
Barbara Duncan R&E Publishers,  
Saratoga, CA 1984 \$12.95

Barbara Duncan's book starts from the premise that most readers are newly single, with not much experience in the practical difficulties of being a competent and organized single adult. She employs a reference-style format to spell out the problems that arise and how they can be handled.

*The Single Mother's Survival Manual* is a how-to-do-it book that focuses less on the psychological side, and more on the practical day-to-day considerations that single mothers face.

Each chapter includes a summary of the material presented in a section called "Bringing it into Focus", and the book has been read and praised by numerous single mothers for its easy-to-read style, and its wide coverage of the issues involved in being a single mom.

*1985 Index Directory of Women's Media*  
Martha Leslie Allen, editor  
Women's Institute for Freedom of  
the Press,  
Washington, D.C. 1985 \$3.00

*The Index Directory of Women's Media* is an annual publication of the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press. It is used each year by women looking to inform themselves about women's media groups nationwide. Periodicals, radio and T.V. groups, library collections, and courses are only a few of the sorts of listings contained in the *Directory*, and each group or individual listed describes it or herself, portraying themselves in the way they most see fit. The *Directory* also includes "The Three Principles of Feminist Journalism", and "A Radical Feminist Analysis of Mass Media." Overall, the *Directory* is a very valuable source of information about women's resources nationwide.



# The Feminist Forecast:

## Astrological Tidal Changes for Women of the Valley Region



by Elizabeth Gordon

Once again, welcome to the Feminist Forecast. Your positive comments regarding the new format have been very encouraging, and as always, are greatly appreciated. We are pleased with your response and happy you are finding the Forecast more useful.

Astrology is not for the apathetic. It is a tool for those who have faith in their power to bring about change, both in their own lives and in the society by which we are so affected. Astrology is very revolutionary in that it has to do with the movement of bodies in their orbits, with complete cycles of events, and with complete change, all definitions of the word revolutionary.

Of course, movement and cyclical change are the constants, and change is not something the apathetic like, their emotions dulled and non-existent.

There is no need to attempt to convince skeptics that astrology is valid and accurate. This vast science doesn't need their belief in order to exist, their permission to continue on. The revolutionaries who live their cycles and changes will recognize the value of astrology as an art and science, and will use it as the excellent tool it is to bring about change that will improve the quality of life for everyone.

In the light of the above commentary, November promises to be quite revolutionary. This month contains three major signs of change: a Solar Eclipse, Saturn's movement into Sagittarius, and the appearance of Halley's Comet, a celestial and astrological event associated historically with change.

There are also minor, supportive planetary changes: Venus enters Scorpio, the Sun enters Sagittarius and Mercury turns retrograde. When the dust settles, we won't recognize the landscape of our lives. All in all, November's influences are predominantly favorable, easing us into our new surroundings.

Don't be fooled by what seems like nothing happening, for these changes are subtle at first. You can be sure things are moving, even if you don't feel they are. Later you will be able to tell when the movement began, how it progressed and where it has taken you. Bon voyage and I wish you smooth sailing, your seaworthy vessel safely guided by the starry heavens.



### 1st Weekend, Nov. 1-3

The month begins with a Friday morning that seems to glue us to our beds. Getting up and going to work or school looms before us, a most undesirable task indeed. The day drags on with little or no energy available to accomplish the endless stream of irritating things demanding our attention. The evening is an oasis, promising relief and relaxation for

our tired bodies and spirits. Saturday and Sunday are excellent days to stay home and work on your latest do-it-yourself home improvement project. The Moon in Cancer provides us with the urge to belong someplace, and this is usually home and can sometimes be family. Whatever the make-up of yours, you'll enjoy spending time with it.

### 1st Week, November 4-10

A strong Mercurial influence prevails this week, favoring conversations, contracts, agreements, purchases, and short trips around the neighborhood. Being the final week before the New Moon Cycle that contains the U.S. Thanksgiving and the beginning of the winter shopping and buying madness, it might be a good idea to use this Mercurial influence to do errands, make lists, plan activities, and finish whatever remains from life as we now know it. The hydra of capitalism is soon to rear one of its ugliest heads: the exploitation of Christians and their festival season of Christmas. Once a religious holiday, it has presently become an obsessive and relentless drive to spend extraordinary amounts of money in the name of "love." Mondays sextile to Mars supplies us with a hearty push as we sail through a week offering no resistance to our energetic activities. Friday arrives before we know it, and with it a Mercury Jupiter sextile, bringing us good luck, favorable opportunities and increasing optimism, not to mention a pleasant sense of satisfaction from having accomplished what we set out to do. We glide into a weekend highlighted by relationships, creativity and inspiration. Saturday begins the final three days of the Old Moon, especially important in the light of the upcoming Solar Eclipse on Tuesday.

### 2nd Week, November 11-17

Monday is a hinge day, swinging between two astrological cycles, one rather major, a Solar Eclipse. The Moon enters Scorpio early morning, setting the stage. In the evening, a Mars Jupiter trine provides us with abundant energy and optimism with which we are able to set our goals as high as we dare. As a Solar Eclipse signals influences spanning the next twelve months, these goals ought to be extensive and expansive if we are to catch the already flowing currents of this astrological event. Fly high with the hot and fiery winds as they take us over the waiting waters of intense emotional transformation, Scorpio. The Eclipse occurs Tuesday, at 9:20 am EST, in 20° of Scorpio. Those born mid-November and mid-May are those most personally affected, with births mid-August and mid-February also influenced. The prominent placement of the planet Venus tells us that our relationships will be the vehicle for the transformation in our lives over the next twelve months. Intense involvements will bring out latent feelings of possessiveness and jealousy. Desire may be an all-consuming and unrelenting obsession. Someone may have a deep emotional impact on your life. You may suffer a loss that changes you forever. Whatever the shape and color of the situation, it will have deep transformative qualities which affect us on emotional levels. As the popular song goes, "you'll feel the power of love." Wednesday's Venus Pluto conjunction carries the Eclipse energy and again emphasizes the realm of our relationships. Something unexpected happens. Thursday, Friday and Saturday are very laid back days, giving us plenty of time to consider the state of our feelings. Late Saturday

cont'd on p. 10

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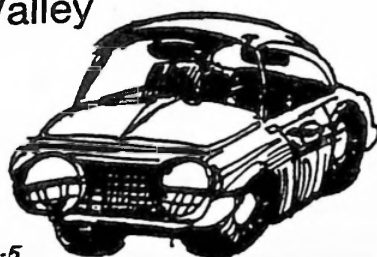
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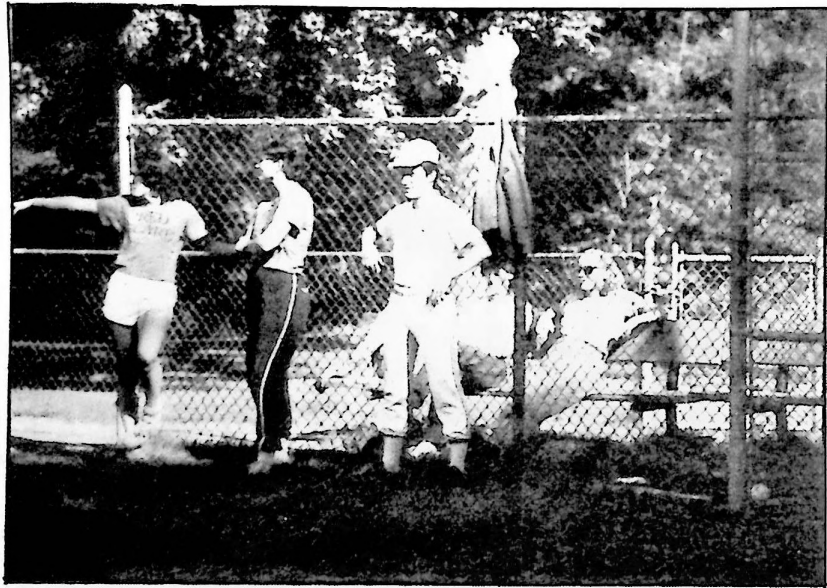
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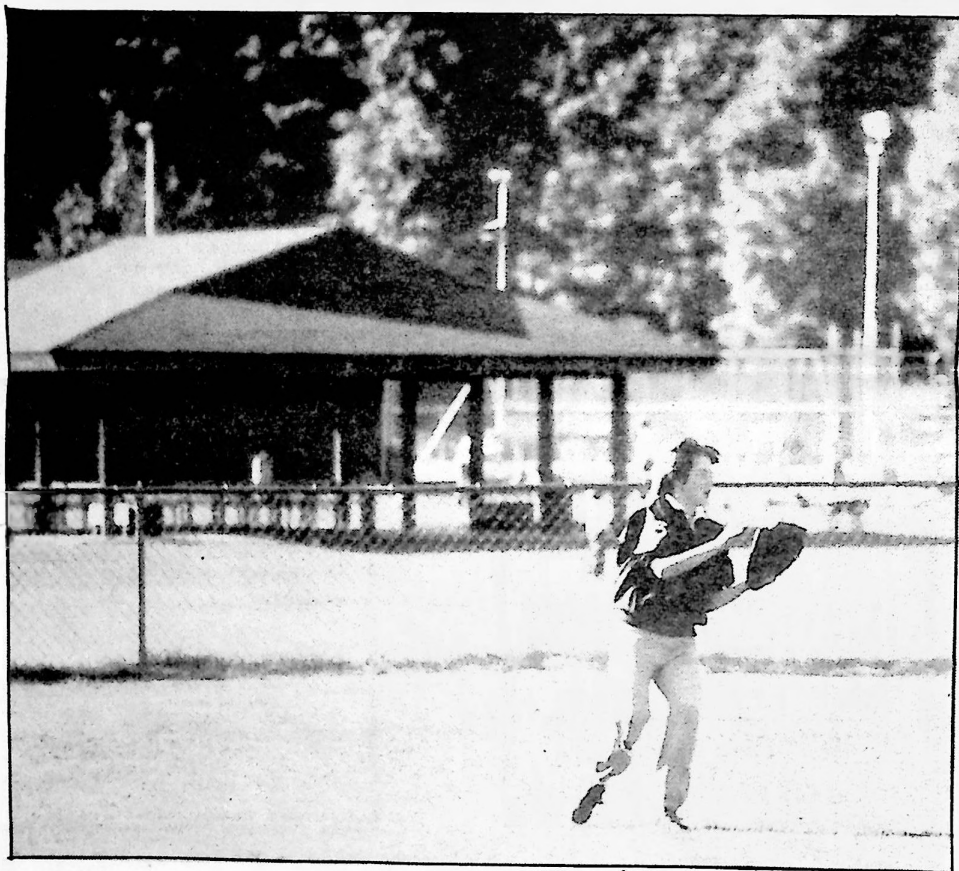
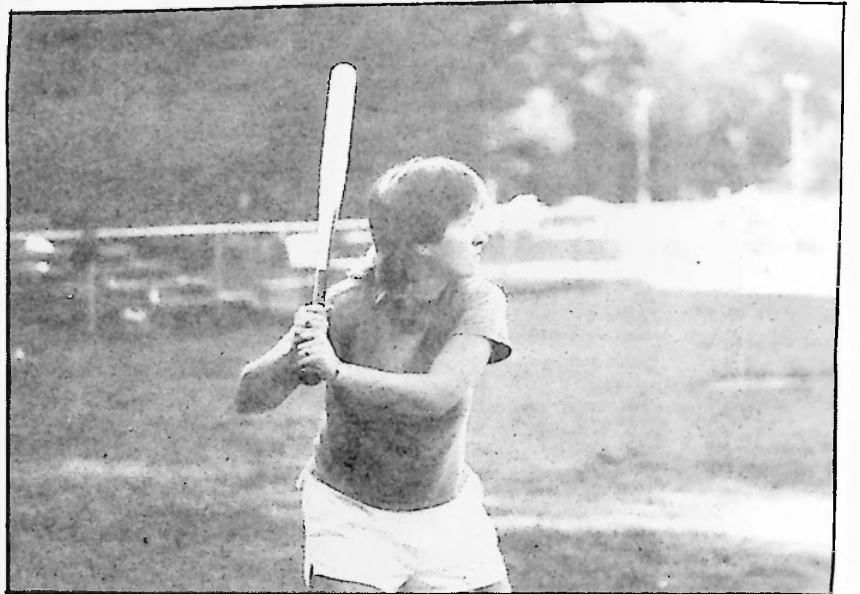


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# Women



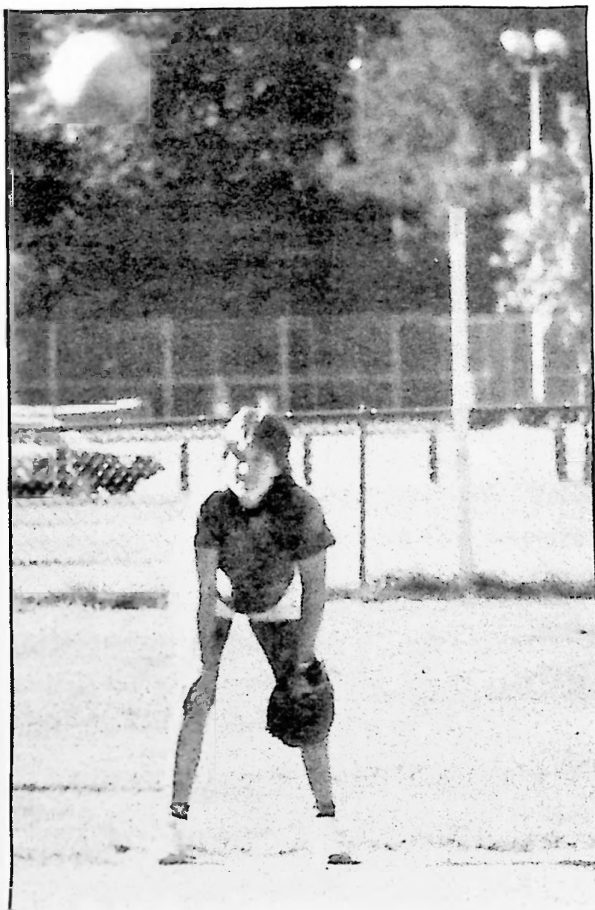
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# at Bat



Softball means many things to many women in the Valley. To some, it is the opportunity to sharpen their skills or to develop new ones. Others are looking for a means of exercise after a long winter, and for still others, like myself, it's a time for socializing and meeting new people. But to all, for whatever reason, it's a good time.

It's also a good time for those women I'll refer to as "Softball Widows": the lovers and friends of the women who have been bitten by the softball bug. The widows usually wander down to watch one game and end up spending the summer giving moral support and great cheers whether you're winning or losing. They're a fun bunch and great to be around.

The Valley Women's Softball League is a melting pot of women of all skill levels. There are women who have never even thought of playing a team sport until that "particular" summer, yet there are women who have played since high school. The teams are mixed as far as skill levels are concerned, and there's a team for everyone's needs. Most teams play an average of two games a week, and practices vary from team to team.

In the "transient valley," a lot of teams lose players over the year and are usually looking for women to play. Women:yre Bookstore is a good place to go if you're looking for a team. Teams usually post notices there saying they're looking for players or are interested in starting a team.



# Voices

## Is this Love?

cont'd from the letters page



Matthew 5:38-48

Love your enemies...Turn the other cheek...Give them what they ask of you.

Jesus, I am concerned that your teaching promotes the continued subjugation of oppressed people. My Black sister cries out, "Don't tell me to teach my son to surrender!"

And listen, Jesus. I've just learned to say NO. You see, I am a Woman and I have been giving forever. (I am learning to do other things now.)

I have given my Body for sexual pleasure, and for child bearing. (if I did not want sex or babies, it was taken anyway)

I have given up my own Will to support that of my brother. (if I had other ideas, he would threaten and force me)

I have given my Time and Energy to support the direction chosen by my husband.

(when I found other directions more creative, he said "I won't change, so you must go")

I have given my Attention and Money to providing for my children's needs.

(sometimes the isolation and enormity of this task was overwhelming)

I live in a world with structures and systems which are not of my own design.

(I cannot get away from the ubiquitous hierarchical design which teaches and practices "power-over")

My very Life is threatened by destructive inventions which are counter to my desires.

(my deep knowledge about interrelatedness and cooperation makes a small noise in the midst of the aggressive propaganda of the war machine.)

My sisters are raped, degraded, used and abused every day, all over the world.

(Sexism is pervasive, and I will not counsel them to turn the other cheek)

You see, Jesus, I am not concerned with pleasing my Father which is in Heaven. The Holy Spirit which is in me guides me to continue to grow and develop--to learn to trust and express my Self. My own evolution within the context of local and global responsibility is my Soul Purpose.

I know that we agree that it's all about Love. We need to learn how to Love. Well, right now I'm angry, Jesus. Angry and scared. Angry that my life, ALL lives, are dominated by men who don't know how to love. Scared that if I love them, they will destroy me. (continue to take my Body, my Will, my Time, my Energy, my Attention, my Money, and ultimately, my Life).

I am not looking for vengeance, Jesus, I'm really not. I don't want to hurt anyone. I want to make peace with those who hurt me. The question is: How to respond with Love to Abuse? Is turning the other cheek the best one can do?

To me, the most Loving response would be one which breaks the pattern of abuse. If I Love my oppressor, why would I allow him to behave to despicably? If I Love my oppressor, why would I lie to him by disguising my anger? If I Love my oppressor I will try to interrupt the oppression, and I will express myself so that he may know me.

Also, how can I Love my oppressor if I don't love myself? Can I be Loving myself by allowing continued abuse? And what sense does it make to turn the other cheek when half of the time it's so habitual that he doesn't even know he hit me?

I really can't tell you how I will respond, and there's no one response I aspire to over all the others--there are so many possible variables. My hope is that I will be spontaneous (in touch with the moment) and that my response will be healing for the Whole of which we all are a part. I may hug the other, I may walk away, I may wail or rage, I may organize a meeting or write a song or call the police. I don't know. It depends...

Good News, Lowell Brook, 9/18

## Feminist Forecast, cont'd

day night, Saturn slips into Sagittarius, giving many of us a merciful rest from the frustrations and problems of the last two years. Sunday brings an extremely indulgent influence that could potentially ruin our metabolisms and wallets. Try being restrained; Monday morning will thank you.

### 3rd Week, November 18-24

The reason Monday morning is grateful to you for your conservative behavior is the fact that today everything that can go wrong, will. Mercury turns retrograde today resulting in a breakdown of communication at every possible level. Plans go awry, appointments are missed and computers break down. This state of affairs continues into the third week of December, so avoid making agreements of any kind as you will only have to go back over them at a later date. If you must travel, leave extra time to allow for the recovery of your luggage which has ended up in Phoenix when it's supposed to be in Boston. If that appliance you purchased last month has to be delivered this week, read the agreement very carefully to avoid service and repair problems in the future. In general, just coast along for the next three weeks if possible. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday allow us time to figure out what's been going wrong these last few days, as a second Mercury Mars sextile gives us the opportunity to put things right again. Friday the Sun goes into Sagittarius and joins Saturn, giving us a preview of what this planet will do for us in its new sign position. Saturday

is a very high energy day with the accent on excitement, surprises, unexpected meetings and great sex. If you have plans for the evening and night, you are bound to have a wonderful time with someone unusually stimulating and exciting. Don't be afraid to take a wild chance! Sunday lets us be indulgent and expansive without any kind of price tag. Perhaps your new found excitement decides to stay with you for the rest of the weekend. Things end on an upbeat note.

### 4th Week, November 25-30

Sunday night's good natured air carries over to Monday morning and we enjoy telling weekend stories to co-workers. Today begins the period of the Full Moon, as the tide begins to rise. Tuesday morning dreams leave us with the nagging feeling of having been separated from someone we love. The Moon skips into Gemini as we notice our nerves are beginning to tingle and we can't stay still. The Mercurial influence that's been impishly playing hide-and-seek with us all month finally comes out in an uncharacteristically big way. Our nervous systems begin to transmit electrical impulses as we receive messages from regions unknown. Some may hear voices while others find themselves able to tune into people's thoughts. Nervous energy is at a very high pitch indeed, and this is likely to result in conditions extremely unsettling to the body and its need to function in an atmosphere of stability. The Full Moon happens on Wednesday at 7:42 am EST in the 5th degree of Gemini. It reflects a tremendous amount of electrical stimuli which must

be grounded, lest it short-circuit our wiring. If this is not enough for you, the appearance of Halley's comet should do the trick. To quote M.A. Smollen: "There will be many individuals who experience a deeply personal revelation coinciding with the comet's visit....a contact with higher levels of consciousness; a breakthrough, an emergence of what was formerly hidden, remote, or forgotten; a liberation that results from the overthrow of existing structures and outworn situations." These are words truly befitting the revealing peak of a Scorpio Lunation Cycle. The chart for this Lunation suggests the preparation and partaking of food as the perfect way to ground all this wild energy. Food preparation, by its very nature, will impose order on the chaos. Whatever your relationship to food may be, working with it in some way provides a much-needed and calming influence. Though Wednesday is the peak of this activity, Thursday's Sun-Mercury conjunction delivers a day only slightly milder than the one before. The Moon enters the sign Cancer, and along with the rest of us, is in need of Tender Loving Care. Saturday finds us feeling vulnerable, dependent, exhausted and depressed. Take heart, for this too shall pass, and soon we will be feeling ourselves, even if we're not exactly sure who that is yet. Relax and rest, and perhaps in our dreams we'll catch a fleeting image of this new person.

Next is the Question of the Month. Read and listen on..

November's question was asked by a woman who is going to be a chiropractor. She wants to know about a particular school to which she has been accepted and is now considering. In the interest of confidentiality, the school will be known as the Kanadu College of Chiropractic. The question is: "Will I be happy going to Kanadu College of Chiropractic?"

The querent's significators fall in the houses of career and specialized study, reflecting her concerns. Interestingly, her main ruler is Saturn, the planet that rules bones and the skeletal structure. The chart indicates she will be isolated and disappointed at this school. Her goals will be frustrated and she will have a difficult time making friends, an important part of graduate study of any kind. The aspect between the planet that rules our querent and the planet that rules her interest is one that signals stress and disappointment, limitations and sadness. It is as if she is getting a red light on her question. There is a suggestion of an unexpected change in circumstances that will benefit her and advance her hopes and wishes. There may be an inheritance, or an insurance payment, perhaps an increase in her partner's income. Kanadu College of Chiropractic is not the place for our querent to seek happiness, which is, after all, the subject of her inquiry.



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## Personal Account cont'd.

to mere emotional duress. Don't try to make me feel better and then tell me to go home. Don't ignore me. Don't put me off. Don't lay a guilt trip on me.

### I refuse to accept!

I am a woman student. I am a serious student. I am a serious woman. I know when to laugh at foolishness and I know when I am being fooled. When my university tells me that sexual harassment is something to be dealt with informally, I am being fooled. Sexual harassment is a serious matter. I chose to utilize the formal UMass sexual harassment procedure because the hearing board offered sensitive consideration of my case and is empowered to impose a wide range of sanctions if the professor is found to have harassed the student. Much of my support came from the Everywoman's Center, certain administrative staff, other women in the UMass community, many aggrieved women and friends of aggrieved women. Even with all this support, going through the process is difficult. It is

a constant struggle for legitimacy. The process must be pushed and prodded into action. Much of the time you are not taken seriously and neither is the formal procedure. Legitimacy can only come through usage. Some of the administrative staff need constant pressure to adhere to their own rules and deadlines (which are virtually non-existent.) Even so, I am very glad I went through the procedure. It is extremely satisfying to make such a strong declaration of your grievances and have your contentions confirmed.

I shall feel threatened by a certain professor whenever I encounter him or expect to encounter him. I dropped his class. I won't be taking any of his other classes. I won't seek his sponsorship for independent work nor for an internship. Being on the floor of my department is uncomfortable. Being in other professors' offices is uncomfortable. Will colleagues of his be prejudiced against me if I take their courses? Will he be teaching the one Legal Studies course I need for graduation during my last semester?

Sexual harassment is not just an "incident" which happened last semester. It is something with which I live.

## What to do, cont'd

- Verbal abuse
- Subtle pressure for sexual activity
- Sexual remarks about a person's clothing, body, or sexual activity
- Unnecessary touching, in any form
- Demanding sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning one's job, grades, letters of recommendation, etc.
- Physical assault, including rape.

"It is the policy of the University of Massachusetts to protect the rights of all persons within the University community by providing fair and impartial investigations of all complaints brought to the attention of appropriate officials. Any member of the University community found to have violated this sexual harassment policy will be subject to disciplinary action." (University of Massachusetts at Amherst Sexual Harassment Policy)

The University policy applies to all members of the campus community and protects against retaliation. As in the case of federal and state complaint, resolution must be sought within six months of any incident. Confidential, informal resolution, first at the departmental level, then through the Ombuds Office, is an available option.

If the matter is not resolved informally, formal grievance procedures begin with the filing of a written complaint and subsequent closed appearance before a board composed of three representatives of a trained sexual harassment hearing panel. The board determines whether a violation of policy has occurred and proposes penalties and/or solutions.

Appeal may be made at the Vice Chancellor level and for reconsideration of the Vice Chancellor's decision by the Chancellor, whose decision within the University is final. This procedure is currently being revised.

At the same time complainants may also seek relief in the court or through non-University agencies providing action is begun within six months of any incident.

It is not the intent of the Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure to interfere with reciprocal relationships or to intrude into the private lives of members of the University community. The University's intent is to provide a mechanism whereby those who feel sexually harassed can bring a grievance without fear of retaliation.

The grievance procedure provides both informal and formal levels. Several campus agencies are prepared to help people with problems of sexual harassment. General awareness of the grievance procedure will help make the community more sensitive to the issue and reduce the likelihood and frequency of grievances.

For information regarding sexual harassment, University policy and/or grievance procedure contact Myra Hindus of the Working Women's Program, Everywoman's Center, at (413)545-0883.

Say "no clearly"; keep a written record of dates and times of incidents; tell someone you trust; get help or information from any of the following: Affirmative Action Officer 545-3464, Employee Assistance Program 5-0350, Everywoman's Center - Myra Hindus, Working Women's Program 5-0883, Legal Services Office 5-1995, Mediation Project 5-2462, Office of Human Relations 5-0851, Ombuds Office 5-0867, SCERA 5-0341

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## Behind Bars cont'd.

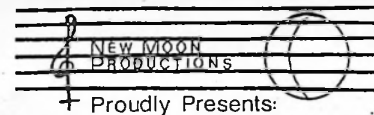
Raven's school work is important to her, and she writes often of how much she has to do. She takes classes partly because she feels better when she is busy. In addition, "School breaks up my day of sitting in this small room. At least I get to go to another building to school and I have other students to talk to." Most importantly, however, she takes classes to learn. Although the education there is "not the best," she writes Katey, "I love to learn.... I love the challenge of the unknown...."

There are times when nothing can keep Raven from feeling the ache of being confined. "I feel lonely today. I wish we could sit and talk for hours. I would really enjoy that. An understanding heart is what I need, there's really no one I can relate to in my building. I like to get into deep conversations. The chicks around me are air heads, they cannot hold a decent conversation."

After years of battling for appeals that stave off her death sentence and give her hope that she will sometime be able to leave prison, Raven writes, "I have something to tell you that you may not understand or accept. I have dropped my appeals. I have grown tired of fighting this useless battle."

"My life is not very good within this small room that I must endure every day. I know you cannot understand my decision fully, but I hope you will try. You would have to live in this roach-infested place which is hell itself. I am a strong woman or I would have snapped years ago. After 4 years I've had enough.... I hope that you will continue to think of me and write.... my decision does hurt a lot of people that care about me. I hurt too, don't think that this decision was an easy one to make.... I need to know that I have a little dignity left and some control over my life. Always I love you, Raven."

Katey and Carol both continued to write Raven, each learning to accept and perhaps understand Raven's decision. One of Raven's most recent letters reports, "I'm ok. I'm holding up really good. I'm happy even though the circumstances do not bring happiness. For the most part I'm content inside. I do not let any situation destroy my peace, regardless of how bad the situation may be. She tells Katey, "Be the journey good or bad it's always better when two friends walk hand in hand sharing the load. Thanks for helping me carry the load."



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## Immediate Family

Leslea Newman

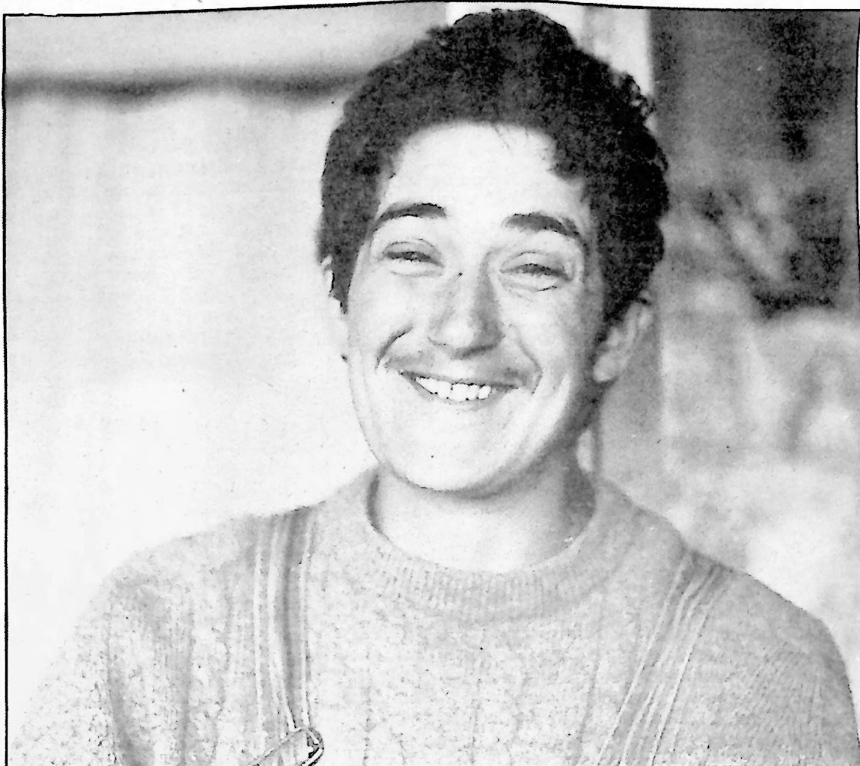
What does the term "immediate family" mean to you? Is it your family of origin, your friends, your lover(s), your children, your cat, your dog or a combination of the above? As lesbians, often we create our own immediate families, as we choose who to love, even though society doesn't often recognize or validate these choices. And this can have very painful consequences, as illustrated by the play **IMMEDIATE FAMILY**, written by Terry Baum, to be performed by Iris Bloom in mid-November.

**IMMEDIATE FAMILY** concerns itself with the relationship between Virginia and Rosie--lovers for 27 years. Now Rose is in a coma and Virginia visits her every day on her way home from work at the post office. The entire play consists of Virginia's monologues during two of these hospital visits, which are full of hope, despair, humor, rage and tenderness, as she reminisces about their life together and tries to make a

very painful decision that the legal system maintains only blood relations have the right to make.

**IMMEDIATE FAMILY** premiered at the National Festival of Women's Theater in 1983 and has since toured the country, including sold-out performances at the Boston Women's Theater Festival and Harvard Medical School. The Bay Area Reporter observed that "Baum's sense of humor is heartwarming..." while Gay Community News describes it as "deeply moving." Playwright Terry Baum has been invited to present **IMMEDIATE FAMILY** at the International Women's Festival in Amsterdam.

**IMMEDIATE FAMILY** will be performed November 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23 at the East Street Dance Studio, off Route 9 in Hadley at 8 p.m. Both Thursday night performances are for women only and the theater is wheelchair accessible, though arrangements must be made in advance. Tickets are \$5-\$9, sliding scale. For more information or reservations, call 584-5888 or 586-3383.



\*\*\*\*\*



### The Chairs at Present Stage

Lois Weaver of the **SPLIT BRITCHES COMPANY**, Suzanne Baxtresser a.k.a. Calamity Jane, and Linda Putnam, master teacher at the **ACTOR'S SPACE** and **UP AND OUT** are each well known in the Valley for their theater work. Now all three are collaborating on the Present Stage production of Eugene Ionesco's **The Chairs**.

Playing November 7-10 and 14-17, **The Chairs** is the second play in the Theater Series at the Northampton Center for the Arts. Movingly poignant and wildly comic by turns, **The Chairs** is a forerunner of Beckett's **Waiting for Godot**. It tells the simple story of an old couple who love each other

and are waiting...But it tells it with physical humor, with slapstick action, and with a sense of the fine line between tragedy and comedy.

Valley audiences who have enjoyed Lois Weaver's productions of **Split Britches** and **Upwardly Mobile Home** will understand why Present Stage has invited her to direct Ionesco, the playwright who said, "I have never understood the difference people make between the comic and the tragic."

**The Chairs** will perform at the Northampton Center for the Arts, Old School Commons, 17 South St., Northampton. Performances start at 8 p.m. Call 586-7282 now for tickets.

## Just Humor Us

"Seeing her live was shocking but brought no surprises" (Cyane Gresham, the Feminist Connection). Kate Clinton has unerring style and wit and offers a pioneer brand of feminism: one stressing optimism and rejuvenation and using humor based on equality instead of the put-down of others. New Moon Productions is proud to present Kate Clinton in her third album release tour, along with special guest Nancy Vogl at the Calvin Theatre in Northampton, at 8:00 p.m., on Friday, November 22.

About five years ago, Kate Clinton gave up teaching high school and turned instead to "building a comic tradition that empowers and elevates women" (Donna Chernin, Plain Dealer). Perhaps her strongest talent is

... and then there's my favorite, which is: de-dyke-ing the apartment ... or as a friend of mine calls it, Straightening Up.

... my other favorite is, "Uh, Mom and Dad know about us, but when you come over, just don't say you're a lesbian - okay?" Like I usually do when I go to their house: "Hi! I'm-a-lesbian!" "Oh, the lesbian's here" "What does she eat?" "I dunno."

to tap the common concerns of so many women and provide a humor that may indeed be at the essence of our resilience and ability to survive and which bonds us in celebration of our lives.

Opening the evening's entertainment will be Nancy Vogl, one of the most forceful, lyrical and competent guitarists who also offers lyrics that are reflective, challenging and visionary for the 1980s. One of the founding members of the Berkeley Women's Collective (one of the first nationally known feminist bands). Nancy's shows are filled with original work, stories, history and traditional tunes with a contemporary turn.

Tickets are available now for \$8 general admission and \$10 contributing. The concert will be interpreted in American Sign Language by Viki Maureen. For Childcare and other information call (413)584-2637.



Valley Fat Dykes is a large group of six womyn from all corners of the Pioneer Valley. We have been meeting for over 1½ years to give each other support and confront fat oppression, particularly in the lesbian community. This piece was inspired by our individual and collective exposure to too many recent incidents of fat oppression in supposedly "aware" literature and in our personal lives.

## Miss Fat Manners Rules of Etiquette

VWV, page 13

• do not assume you are the "right" weight or there is such a thing as "over" weight. over whose weight? • do not assume I what to be thin, or that I have issues with my weight • do not assume that I am dieting or want to be dieting • do not assume fat is linked to eating • do not assume I eat all the time/overeat/eat more than you/am out of control with food/should eat different foods/do not like to eat •

### On the streets/on the dance floor/at the beach

Do not stare/sneer/make oppressive remarks or gestures/think I should have stayed home.

Be aware that bus seats, turnstiles, restaurant and theater seats, and bathroom stalls do not accommodate people who are different from the patriarchal "norm."

The space I take is the space I deserve.

### In the stores

Don't use the words "flattering," "slenderizing," "minimizing." We don't want to be invisible. Some of us like horizontal stripes/fuschia/exposed cleavage...

Have consciousness that it's harder for fat womyn to find clothes and almost impossible to find stylish clothes or bargains.

Don't comment on how huge clothes are that are too small for me.

Fat comes in different sizes. Do not assume that XL fits all fat women.

### Between the sheets

Do not assume I am more interested in meeting your sexual needs than in having mine met.

Do not fear I will crush you if I roll over.

Do not say you love me/are attracted to me despite my size.

Do not think you can make my dieting a condition of your love.

For more information, read *Shadow on a Tightrope*; Fat Liberator publications.

\*thanks to Elana Dykewomon, *Shadow on a Tightrope*, p. 151

### At the table

Do not count french fries or calories--your own or anyone else's.

Do not utter any of the following phrases:

I shouldn't be eating this.

I'm really pigging out.

I'll start my diet tomorrow.


I'm getting fat.

Do not order diet foods or drinks. Do not support the oppressive diet industry. (We're not talking here about the needs some womyn have to keep careful watch over their blood sugar levels in order to stay alive, e.g. diabetic womyn).\*

If you see me eating carrots, celery or cottage cheese, don't commend me or assume I'm dieting.

Miss Fat Manners Etiquette in a nutshell: When in doubt, shut up and educate yourself.

• do not make assumptions about why I eat/what I eat • do not assume fat is a health risk. the stress of fat oppression and the hazards of dieting are health risks • do not assume dieting results in weight loss. dieting results in the depletion of body resources, physical and emotional stress, heart and other muscle damage, and the gain of more weight than was lost • do not assume I am not healthy and physically fit • do not assume any or all of my medical problems are related to my size • do not assume I am asexual/oversexual/hiding my sexuality • do not assume I want to take care of you. I am not an earth mother or an overstuffed teddy bear • do not assume I am not entitled to the space I take up • do not assume I never get angry • do not assume it is coincidental or "normal" if you have never been attracted to a fat woman. why are you accepting patriarchal standards of beauty? • do not assume I want to hear about your food issues/body image/latest diet/exercise plan • do not assume your body won't change • do not assume I want to be part of your learning process about fat • do not assume I want or need your approval • do not assume fat womyn do not have their own full lives • do not assume my life problems are attributable to my fat • do not assume I should be wearing dark clothes/prefer polyester/should not wear shorts or bathing suits • do not assume this is a personal issue. fat is a political issue • don't tell me/act like/think I'm making up or exaggerating incidents of fat oppression. •



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## Therapy Issues, cont'd

it is important to weigh the potential for help against the price paid in educating the therapist about our lifestyle and related issues, which include the need for total redefinition of "self" and choices involved in making the decision not to plan one's life around a man.

Because of the sensitivity and importance of the relationship between a therapist and the client, choosing a therapist is one of the most important decisions a person can make.

The most essential change a person can gain from therapy is a feeling of expanded reality from recognizing additional choices and alternatives in their lives, which sets the stage for future growth.

In this writer's opinion, it is important for professional therapists who deal with lesbian issues to network with each other, sharing further information about therapy and support groups.

Any and all responses to this article would be welcomed.

## Nurses Call for Papers

The Delta Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and the Yale University School of Nursing, are inviting abstracts of papers to be presented at the conference NURSING AND FEMINISM: IMPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH CARE to be held June 8-10, 1986 in New Haven, Connecticut.

The conference will provide a forum for discussion of the application of feminist philosophy to nursing and health care in the areas of practice, education, public policy, research and administration.

Papers are being solicited that describe nursing as it has been historically and is currently practiced. Using a feminist perspective, the paper should identify those aspects of nursing that are inherently feminist and those that are not. Papers are also sought that predict what nursing and health care would look like were they completely feminist. These predictions may be entirely theoretical, they may

be based on current research, or they may outline a policy or research agenda that looks to merging feminism and health care more completely. Any area of nursing including practice, education, administration, public policy, and research may be used as the focal point for presentations.

### ABSTRACT INFORMATION

300-500 words, single-spaced typed copy, plus one page reference list, if any. Abstracts should be written from one of the following focal points: practice, education, policy making, research or administration.

### ABSTRACTS OF THEORETICAL INFORMATION SHOULD INCLUDE:

-nature of the discussion and central thesis  
-implications for nursing and/or health care

### ABSTRACTS OF RESEARCH PAPERS SHOULD INCLUDE:

-title and author(s)

-purpose and objectives  
-research methods including design, sample, procedure, measurement and data analysis  
-summary results (if complete)  
-implications for nursing and/or health care.

Abstracts must be accompanied by a cover sheet containing title of paper, biographical information including author's or authors' name(s), qualifications, position held, full address and phone number(s) of place of employment. Please submit 4 copies. Deadline for submission is December 1, 1985.

### MAIL ABSTRACT TO:

Kelsie Gatison  
Chair, Program Committee  
Delta Mu, Sigma Theta Tau  
855 Howard Avenue  
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# Announcements

**WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE CONFERENCE**  
The 1st to be sponsored annually by the Commonwealth of Mass. to specifically address the needs and concerns of working women. The goals of the conference are not only to identify the problems of women in the workplace but to create proposals for private and public programs and policy recommendations for change. The conference will be held November 8 & 9 at Northeastern University in Boston. For information call. Cynthia R. Daniels, Conference Coordinator, Women's Health Program, Department of Public Health (617) 727-6922.

\*\*\*

**WICKED WOMEN'S THEATRE PRESENTS Immediate Family**, a play by Terry Baum first performed at the National Festival of Women's Theatre in Santa Cruz in 1983. A humorous and tender portrayal of a lesbian dealing with the end of her lover's life, directed by Patricia Gonzales, performed and produced by Iris Bloom. The play will be shown November 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23, at East Street Studio, 47 East Street, Hadley, women only performances both Thursdays.

\*\*\*

**A LESBIAN THERAPY GROUP WILL BE** meeting Thursday, November 7th at 7:30 - 9:00pm. This ongoing group will meet in Amherst. For more information call the Lifeline Institute at (413) 253-2822.

\*\*\*

**CONSTUYAMOS JUNTOS IS A CONSTRUCTION** brigade centered in Western Mass. that will leave for Nicaragua this January to build a school as a concrete symbol of their solidarity with that nation. Presently the brigade is seeking both new members and donations. People with Spanish language and/or health care skills are especially encouraged to join, while those unable to make that commitment are also asked to donate money for building materials and tools. The success of the project depends upon raising \$15,000 for the construction alone (participants pay their own travel and living expenses, though a sponsorship does exist for a low-income or unemployed member). Constuyamos Juntos meets alternating Wednesdays at 7:30pm at 16 Armory Street in Northampton. Prospective members are encouraged to attend or may send for an application and information to: Constuyamos Juntos, P.O. Box 1261 Northampton, MA. 01061. For further information call (413) 586-2355 or 367-9352.

**ISO'S BISEXUAL WOMEN'S SUPPORT** group meets on the third Thursday of every month. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Bangs Community Center on Boltwood Walk in Amherst. We are open to new members and to visitors. For more info, write to ISO, c/o the VWV, at the EWC with SASE.

**GIFTS FOR CENTRAL AMERICA** invites schools, religious and civic groups to collect medical and educational supplies for children, refugees and victims of war during the holiday season. For information, call the American Friends Service Committee, (617) 661-6130.

**HERIZON MEMBERS, WHERE ARE YOU?** The Binghamton NY women's social club is celebrating its 10th anniversary starting New Year's 1986. Please tell us your whereabouts so we can include you in the celebration. SASE to Herizon P.O. Box 1082, Binghamton NY 13902.

**JEWISH WOMEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL Feminist Movement:** The View From Nairobi", is a talk by Reena Bernards, executive director of New Jewish Agenda, and Christie Balko, former NJA co-chair. They will speak in Northampton on Dec. 3 (place and time to be announced). Would you like to help make this event happen? Write: New Jewish Agenda, P.O. Box 1164, Northampton, MA, 01061

\*\*\*

**"WOMEN AND WILL" - A PSYCHOSYNTHESIS** workshop for women is being sponsored November 15-17 by the Welling Place, in Provincetown, MA. Psychosynthesis is a transpersonal/evolutionary psychology and wholistic approach to human development. The approach is based on the unification and alignment of the elements of one's personality with a transpersonal self which is seen as the integrating principle of the personality and a source of wisdom, inspiration, unconditional love and the will to meaning and service. For more information, contact: The Welling Project, (617) 487-4673.

\*\*\*

**DO YOU REMEMBER SARAH SMALL?** Do you know where she is now? Her friend, Cary Colman, would like to. If you're in touch with her, please ask her to call Cary at (314) 721-4969, or to call the VWV office at (413) 545-2436. Thanks!

\*\*\*

**Necessities/Necesidades, an** organization offering many services to women and children who are abused needs more safe-homes for short term emergency shelter (up to three days). If able to help, please call 586-1125

\*\*\*

**The Feminist Writers Guild Is A** national, non-profit organization founded in 1977, for any feminist who is serious about her writing. The Guild is a unique organization dedicated to furthering writing and networking by women who identify themselves as feminists. Members receive national newsletters, a yearly Directory of Members, and the Guild sponsors a number of literary and political projects. Locally the Guild offers workshops, discussion groups, readings, seminars and other activities. For more info: The Feminist Writer's Guild, P.O. Box 14055, Chicago IL, 60614

**WOMYN'S LAND CONFERENCE -** We would like to organize a conference for the fall of 1986 to discuss and analyze the various issues involved in community living. We need womyn who are interested in living on the land and in community with other womyn to help organize specific aspects of the conference such as food, health care, etc. If you are interested in attending or in helping plan this conference, please drop us a line. Send SASE to: WLC, c/o Heathcote Community, 21300 Heathcote Road, Freeland, Maryland, 21053.

\*\*\*

**THE INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY** Economics assists groups which address urgent land, housing, and capital needs of the poor. We're seeking additional staff: Loan Fund Assistant Manager, Technical Assistance Providers, and Bookkeeper/Secretary. Exciting work; modest compensation; collective support. Write: ICE, attn: Michael Brown, 151 Montague City Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301

\*\*\*

**CRAFTSWOMEN!! SIGN UP NOW TO** sell or display work at the ANNUAL LESBIAN HOME SHOW, to be held Nov. 23 from 11:00 to 4:00 at the Red Barn at Hampshire College. For info and to register call 584-1610.

\*\*\*

**Filmmakers Library Proudly** Announces the release of Silent Pioneers, a documentary on gay and lesbian elders. For More Info: Filmmakers Library Inc., 133 East 58 St, New York, NY, 10022

\*\*\*

**Needed: Women in cities all across** the U.S. to act as regional representatives for the 1986 National Festival of Women's Theatre. Minimal amount of time required - primarily to distribute newsletters and other publicity, and scout theatre companies. Contact National Festival of Women's Theatre at P.O. Box 1222, Santa Cruz, CA. 95061

\*\*\*

**Faced With A Drinking Problem?** Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous can help. Local gay and lesbian AA group is one of many area groups meeting regularly; call 732-9283 for more info.

**VALLEY WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS, INC.** will be sponsoring free self-defense classes and workshops, thanks to the funds raised by the "Arts for Strength" event. 3 hour workshops for women and girls will be offered Sunday, Nov. 10th and Saturday, December 14th. A 4 week class for women and girls begins Thursday, Nov. 14th. A 4 week class for girls and boys, ages 7-12 begins Sat. Nov. 2nd. Please call (413) 527-0101 for more information, or write VWMA, Inc., P.O. Box 1064, Easthampton, MA. 01027.

\*\*\*

**PARENTING FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE** Workshop - for adults who want to enrich their family lives and begin to make a difference in the world. The workshop is being jointly organized by local, regional, and national supporters of the National Parenting for Peace and Justice Network. Participation is invited from parents, churchpersons, educators, human service/community organizers, and peace and justice advocates. For more information contact Evie and Jack Tracey at (617) 848-5662.

\*\*\*

**DO YOU WANT SOMETHING INTERESTING** to do with your time? Franklin Alternatives in Greenfield needs volunteers. We sponsor the Blue Light Coffeehouse, Thyme and Again Bookstore/Cafe and other community events. For more information call (413) 772-6110.

\*\*\*

**New Publication by Sandpiper** books Tracking Our Way Through Time: A Lesbian Herstory Calendar/Journal. \$10.50 + \$1 postage for first book + \$0.25 for each additional to Sandpiper Books P.O. Box 268139, Chicago, IL, 60626-8139

\*\*\*

**Wanted: Wonderful wimmin** dedicated to acknowledging and resisting patriarchal oppression to come live and work with other wonderful wimmin on 52 acres of wimmin's land in Mid-Upstate New York. We can offer food, room and board, healing space, ritual space, music, creativity, and commitment to woman love and struggle. For more info: Wimmin's Peace Camps, 440 Rt. 96, Romulus, NY, 14541

Also needed: Paint supplies of all kinds (as well as paints) to prepare camp for winter

## Everywoman's Center

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT SUPPORT GROUP --** A new support group for women who have experienced, or are presently experiencing sexual harassment, will begin Wednesday evening, Oct. 23rd and will meet for eight weeks. Sexual harassment can be any form of unwanted sexual attention that makes you feel uncomfortable or causes problems on the job or at school. The group will provide a safe place for discussing your feelings and ways of dealing with sexual harassment. For information on this free, confidential support group, call Everywoman's Center at 545-0383.

★

**THIRD WORLD LESBIANS--** A support group is forming to focus on issues and concerns of Third World lesbians. It will begin on Oct. 30, from 7 to 9 pm, and will meet for 8 weeks in the Everywoman's Center in Wilder Hall at UMass. For more info and registration please call 545-0883. There is no fee, and the group is open to women of color only. It is sponsored by the Third World Women's Program.

**"PMS: GAINING CONTROL"**

"PMS: Gaining Control" is a series of 4 workshops for women with Premenstrual Syndrome to learn more about the condition and how to control it. Workshops will be held on Thursdays, Nov. 7, Nov. 21, and Dec. 5. All sessions will meet at 7:30 pm at the EWC. Workshops are free and attendance at all sessions is preferred but not required.

★

**WOMEN HELPING WOMEN ---** The Resource/Referral Program is looking for community volunteers and student interns to staff the Resource Room for the Fall. Community and University women are invited to apply. Volunteers and interns provide information about area services and events; medical and legal referrals, and maintain resource information on many topics of concern to women. Orientation and on-going training is provided. For more information, a job description, and an application form, contact Sandy Mandel, Resource/Referral Coordinator, at the EWC.

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT SKILLS GROUP** is being sponsored by the Working Women's Program of Everywoman's Center. Facilitated by Jane Carey, the group will be focusing on skills assessment, resume writing, and informational and job interviewing. The group will be meeting Tuesday nights, Oct. 15 through Nov. 5 from 7:30 to 9:30 at Everywoman's Center. For more information and registration, contact EWC at 545-0383.

★

**GENDER AND RACE ISSUES IN THE** Caribbean will be the subjects of two lectures delivered by Beverley Manley on November 19. (See Calendar listings.) Ms. Manley, the former president of the Women's Assoc. of the People's National Party in Jamaica, is a former First Lady of Jamaica. She was instrumental in establishing the Women's Bureau and pushing equal pay/equal work legislation through the bureaucratic system. Beverley Manley is a communications consultant who is researching women and development; her visit is sponsored in part by the Everywoman's Center at UMass.

# Calendar

## NOVEMBER 1

Treatment of Sex Offenders Workshop 1:00 to 5:00 pm in Rm. 100 of Sleith Hall at the Western New England College in Springfield. Contact WNEC at (413) 782-3111 for more details

Open Jam Session (mostly folk) at 7:22 pm at the Thyme and Again Bookstore/Cafe, 22 Miles St., Greenfield, MA, (413) 772-6110. Do you sing or play an instrument? Then come join us. Instruments provided or bring your own.

## NOVEMBER 2

We Promised Not To Tell, a poetry theater performance on father-daughter incest, will be performed by Kol and Tziviva, directed by Linda McCroy, at 8:00 pm, in conjunction with the first Annual Nursing Conference. It will take place in Rm. 163 of the Campus Center, UMass; admission is \$3.50, wheelchair accessible. For info or to make reservations, call Judy Wardlow or Robbie Ken at 545-0312, weekdays.

## NOVEMBER 3

The Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Breakfast, a fundraising event for F.L.O.W.E.R., will take place from 10:00am to 2:00 pm at the Old School Commons in Northampton. Tickets at the door, sliding scale \$4-\$10. All lesbians welcome. Accessible. More info, call (413) 586-0622

## NOVEMBER 6

Poetry Reading at 7:30 pm at Thyme and Again Bookstore/Cafe, 22 Miles St. Greenfield (413) 772-6110. Come recite or listen in a friendly, supportive atmosphere.

## NOVEMBER 8

Joanne Loulan, author of LESBIAN SEX, speaks on her work. 7:30-10:00 pm, Seelye 10, Smith College. Hearing interpretation available on request. Free admission. Donations accepted. Accessible.

## NOVEMBER 9

Jane Loulan presents a full-day workshop, including lecture and small groups. 9:00 am-6:00 pm at the East Street Dance Studio, Hadley. Registration fee is \$30, low-income spaces available but require preregistration. Accessible. Contact the Lifeline Institute for more info. (413) 253-2822.

## NOVEMBER 15

BLUE LIGHT COFFEE HOUSE at 8:15 pm at the All Souls' Unitarian Church, corner of Hope and Main Streets in Greenfield, (413) 772-6110. Open mike hour before featured performer (TBA)

## NOVEMBER 16

Understanding Addictions, a day-long women's workshop facilitated by Sandra Schnall and sponsored by WomanSpirit Works, will take place from 9:00 to 5:00 in Amherst. For registration information, call Susan Idman at (413) 628-3879.

## Imposters, Fakes and Frauds workshop 11/16

Immediate Family A humorous and tender portrayal of a lesbian dealing with the end of her lover's life. Performances 11/14,15,16,21,22, and 23 at East Street Studio, 47 East St., Hadley. Woman only both Thursdays

## Nov 16

New Alexandria Lesbian Library Open House! 1-6 pm. All lesbians in the area are invited to visit the library. Music and refreshments will be provided. Slide show depicting the history of NALL will be available for viewing. Tours, more! Call Bet 584-7616 for directions. [For more information about the NALL see our article in this issue -- eds.]

## NOVEMBER 17

Support Group for adoptive parents, adopted children, and birth parents. Will meet in Cliffview Manor (housing for the elderly in Easthampton), off Rt.141. For more details, call Sue at (413) 527-9241.

## NOVEMBER 18

Women's Health, a Traditional Chinese Medical Perspective. Lecture/discussion led by Sharon Weizenbaum, a registered acupuncturist in Northampton. Topics include assessment process in discovering health imbalances, treatment systems, and an explanation of how acupuncture works, all with a focus on concerns specific to women. To take place in the Beyond Words Conference Center, Thorne's Market, N'Hampton, at 7:00pm. No charge. Info call 413, 584-3847

## NOVEMBER 19

Beverly Manley will lecture at Amherst College at 4:00 pm, on "Race, Politics and Gender in the Caribbean" in the Gerald Penny Black Cultural Center, Octagon. Contact Chong Amy Yu at Everywoman's Center, 545-0883.

Ms. Manley will lecture at UMass as well, at 7:30 pm in the Campus Center 163C, on "Black Women in the Caribbean".

Sponsored by Working Women's Program, Everywoman's Center; Western Mass. Women's Network; and Women's Statewide Legislative Network.

## NOVEMBER 20

Crane Folding Peace Project 7:00 pm at Thyme and Again Bookstore/Cafe, 22 Miles St. Greenfield (413) 772-6110. Fold beautiful and decorative cranes as a wish for peace. Beginners are welcome. Materials and instructions provided. Co-sponsored by the Traprock Peace Center.

"How to Get What you Want and Need from the Legislature", an educational evening open to organizations and individuals, will focus on two local lobbying efforts. Wednesday, 7--9:30 at Center for Reflective Action, Mt. Marie, Holyoke. Call 545-0383 for info.

## NOVEMBER 21

Open meeting of Western Mass Parents and Friends Of Lesbian and Gay Children and Friends (PFLAG) will be held at 7:30 pm at the Young Women's Association (YWCA), 137 Chestnut St., in Springfield. All parents, children, and friends are welcome. For further, call (413) 732-0677

## NOVEMBER 23

The ANNUAL LESBIAN HOME SHOW (an arts, crafts, and skills fair), will take place from 11 till 4:30 in the Red Barn at Hampshire College. All women are welcome. Call (413) 584-1610 for more info. There will also be a winter clothing exchange. Bring your extras and get what you need!

Women, Power, and Cinderella: A workshop for women reclaiming power and independence in the workplace and/or relationships. Led by Christine Radzel, from 10 am till 4 pm. To preregister call 253-5626, but we warn you - you might encounter an answering machine.

## Nov. 23

Workers Day at the NALL, 3-6pm. Help sort herstorical materials, catalog, file, etc., at the New Alexandria Lesbian Library. Experience is not necessary. Join us for a wonderful afternoon of sharing the library and the beautiful womanenergy generated from this collection. Refreshments will be provided. Call Bet 584-7616 for more information. [For more information about the NALL itself see our article in this issue -- eds.]

## NOVEMBER 25

So Tai: A Japanese Approach to Adjusting Bodily Misalignments. So Tai is an exercise technique that uses simple, pain-free movements with light resistance provided by an assistant to correct structural imbalances in the body. Lecture/demonstration led by Sharon Weizenbaum, a registered acupuncturist and So Tai therapist in N'Hampton. This free workshop will be held at 7:00 in the Beyond Words Conference Center in Thorne's Market. Call (413) 584-3847 for more information.

## DECEMBER 6

Women's Circle Gathering: WomanSpirit Works is sponsoring an evening of singing, chanting, and ritual, open to all women. From 7 to 9 pm, Conference Room, third floor, Thorne's Market, N'Hampton. Free. Accessible. For more info call Susan Waldman at 413-618-3879, or Paula Green at 413-367-9520.

The Third Annual Women, Health and Healing Summer Institute to help upgrade the teaching of women's health issues will be sponsored June 20-July 2 by the University of California, San Francisco. The 40 participants in this year's program, who will come from nursing and women's study programs from throughout the U.S. as well as outside the country, will participate in a wide range of programs examining minority health problems, doctor-patient communication, women's illness behavior, and other topics culminating in a session on how to work teaching improvements into curriculum and funding programs. Application materials are available from School of Behavioral Sciences, School of Nursing, N-631-Y, San Francisco, CA. Application deadline is March 15, 1986.



# Classifieds

Summit Bookkeeping Services for profit and non-profit small businesses. Dependable, reasonable. 774-2134.

Massage/acupressure for women, by licensed therapist. Home calls possible. \$10 off initial treatment. 268-3136.

## Any Questions?

Lesbian Support Group forming in November led by licensed social worker. For further information call Barbara at Child and Family Service, Springfield 737-1426.

Stay active through the winter with horseback riding lessons. Private, semi-private, or group. Indoor arena. Call Susan (413) 323-7514 after 5.

Looking for one or two lesbian feminists to share my Northampton home. Low rent, quiet street. 2 rooms available, office or studio space possible. Call 586-9485.

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